

From: sy0005@unt.edu@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 2:11pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I find the proposed final judgment for the Microsoft antitrust case to be unsatisfactory. The PFJ would allow Microsoft to engage in clearly anticompetitive behaviors without violating the settlement. For example, there is nothing in the PFJ to prevent Microsoft from programming artificial incompatibilities that would make it difficult or impossible to run Microsoft applications on non-Windows operating systems that are able to run software that was written for Windows operating systems. This has already been done in the past by Microsoft in the mid 1990's with Windows 3.1. That case was taken to court and was ruled to be anticompetitive behavior. So the proposed settlement does not restrict out examples of anticompetitive behavior that have already been used by Microsoft in the past. This is one of many problems with the PFJ that I can see but for the sake of brevity I will leave you with the thought that it would be better to take the extra time now to make sure that your solution will accomplish it's goals than to regret a hasty and ineffective settlement in the future. I implore you to reconsider the settlement now before it is too late. Thank you for your time and patience.

Sincerely,
Shane Yeargan
Student
U of North Texas